

Appl. No. 10/787,171  
Amendment dated November 1, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of August 2, 2006

Please replace paragraph [0054] beginning on page 19, line 14 with the following rewritten version:

As is ~~obvious~~ apparent from the above description, a low rigidity characteristic is achieved as the pair of first torsion springs 58A and 58B is compressed in series or end to end contact ~~relationship~~ relationship up to the first stage, i.e., up to the torsion angle of  $\theta_1$ , while in the second stage, i.e., from the torsion angle of  $\theta_1$  to  $\theta_2$ , the second torsion spring 59 is compressed independently with the pair of first torsion springs 58A and 58B, thus providing the rigidity of the second stage. By realizing the second stage characteristic in the region of larger torsion angles, it is possible to provide a lower rigidity than in the prior art in the first region with smaller torque.